



THE STONEHENGE SCHOOL

13 September 2015

Dear Parents and Carers

We are pleased to inform you of our intention to implement a cashless catering system in November 2015. The new system will allow us to continue with the development of the school meal service, and will provide us with a more efficient, faster and ultimately better quality of service.

This system incorporates the latest technology and eliminates the need for students to carry cash throughout the day. It is biometric so there is no need for students to carry a card as the system will recognise the thumb of your child at the till. We will also be using this system in the Library for the loan of books. Please be assured that this information remains within the school and that the biometric information taken is an algorithm and not the actual finger print.

As per current legislation, we will be operating an 'Opt In' policy and therefore require you to complete and return the attached consent form. Your right to consent or withdraw consent is protected under the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 and the Data Protection Act 1998.

I'm sure that you will have many questions about this so I have enclosed a Biometrics Information Policy that we recommend you read through and keep.

There are many benefits to yourself, your child and the school in using this technology. The system will enable a child to purchase from the canteen without cash, drawing money from a pre-paid account and identifying themselves by touching a reader with their thumb. It will also help you to keep control of dinner money costs, help your child to know they have enough credit for lunch, and save the school money by making our lunch facilities more efficient.

Biometric systems have been used in UK schools since 1999 and have gained considerable ground in popularity over recent years. We believe that this is the way forward for The Stonehenge School and hope you agree by signing the consent form. We are very aware that there may be concerns about the use of biometrics and fingerprint technology but all research shows how safe and beneficial these systems are to everyone involved.

If you have any questions about this process, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us. There are many informative articles available on the internet as well as information on the homepage of the supplier we will be using Nationwide Retail Systems.

Please read through the attached information sheet before completing the form below
Yours sincerely

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School Business Manager

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